Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Daytona Beach, FL

Aerospace EngineeringBachelor of Science, April 2004

NASA Academy Research Project: Radiation and Climate on Earth

Principal Investigator: Dr. Peter Pilewskie



EMAIL: Kelley Atkinson@hotmail.com

Education and Experience:

From the time I went to Space Camp in 4th grade I have known that I want to work for NASA and become an astronaut. It wasn't until high school that I finally knew the title of the career I wanted: Engineering. I attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY for my freshman year studying aeronautical and mechanical engineering before transferring to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, FL in 2001 to pursue a strictly Aerospace Engineering curriculum. While at school I have become involved in grading and running a tutor lab for engineering students covering Statics, Solid Mechanics and Materials Science. Additionally I am a member of Sigma Gamma Tau (the Aerospace Engineering Honor Society) and a scholarship recipient from Women In Aviation, Society of Women Engineers and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

While in school I have also participated in two internships with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Engineering Department at Dulles International Airport where I worked as an engineering technician on a variety of CADD projects.

I am also in the process of earning my private pilot's license and am hoping to have it complete by the time of graduation.

Extracurricular Interests:

I have always enjoyed a wide range of activities. I have been a member of Girl Scouts for over 15 years and received my Gold Award as a senior Girl Scout. I also had the opportunity to participate in three Girl Scout Wider Opportunities that brought together girls from around the nation sharing a similar interest. These events were: ARROWplains to AEROplanes '95 in Oklahoma City, OK, Quantum Leap '97 in Toledo, OH, and Exploring the Night's Candles '98 in Southern California. All these events centered around astrophysics and engineering.

In addition to Girl Scouts, I have participated in Claude Moore Colonial Farm's docent farm child program. This is a volunteer program where you reenact the life of a farm child in pre-revolutionary Virginia for visitors to come and see.

I also enjoy music and was very active in band during high school, as a member of Symphonic band, marching band and the pit orchestra for musicals.

My favorite activity would have to be traveling with my family. I have had the opportunity to travel to many parts of the United States and abroad. My favorite trips would have to include Southern Spain, Mexico and our cruises of the Caribbean.